

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7022
By McLeary

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of John T. Murphy of Jackson.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of John T. Murphy; and

WHEREAS, John Murphy was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in rural Decatur County on April 21, 1920, John T. Murphy attended school in Scotts Hill and graduated from Saltillo School; he attended Martin Junior College and graduated from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as the second Agricultural Engineering graduate; and

WHEREAS, the owner of several patents for plow and agricultural implement design, Mr. Murphy served with acumen and alacrity as the founder and operator of Murphy Tractor Company, in which position he earned the respect of his employees and customers alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, John Murphy was a highly esteemed figure in the political world whose support and friendship were deeply valued by many elected officials; his celebrated dinners and open houses at Murphy Tractor Company attracted a panoply of local customers and neighbors, professional athletes, country music, television, and Broadway stars, mayors, legislators, commissioners, governors, congressmen, and even a Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy served as a member of the Jackson Rotary Club, Jackson Country Club, Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Democratic Executive Committee, and the UT Alumni Association; he was a 32nd Degree Mason, a Shriner, and a member of several professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, John Murphy was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as a member of the Dick Nunn Sunday School class; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, John Murphy enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Josephine Brewer Murphy, and was the proud father of Libby Murphy, John T. Murphy, Jr., MD, and Perry Murphy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy is further survived by his grandchildren, John Thomas Murphy, Carrie Murphy, Katelyn Murphy, and Kendall Murphy; daughters-in-law, Teresa Murphy and Vicky Murphy; brother and sister-in-law, Calvin P. and Lois Murphy; and numerous nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy was preceded in death by his parents, Pat and Bland Vise Murphy; brother, Vise Murphy; and infant son, Perry Houston Murphy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of John T. Murphy, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Murphy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.